

ballot. In the case of such votes, no secrecy is intended. In the case of a person who does not know whom he marks, he tells him that he should mark against such and such a person. That is the principle on which all balloting is conducted. The man who marks knows to whom he has voted. No one else knows, and unless there is an enquiry under the section, no one can know for whom a man has voted. That is balloting. So, the information given to the agent does not matter.

**Dr. A. R. Menon.**—What is the object of the secrecy? The object is to ensure protection to the voter so that he may exercise his vote. That is the main object. The voter is entitled to come to the polling booth, and say "I vote for such and such a person". It may so happen for a poor peasant that he wanted to vote for a certain candidate, and the parties may have some hold over him, and he will find himself in a difficult position in that case. You will give this instruction to the polling officer who is supposed to be a gentleman, and he will see that he puts his signature on the cover. If and when a case arises, you will find his signature, and he is expected to mention that he has marked a paper. That is one object.

As they say, there is certainly a complaint like that. Complaints may arise, if the polling officer forgets himself in identifying the men. The protection of the voter must be the primary consideration. If you want that you must have secret voting, ballot voting is meant by that.

**Particulars regarding Dr. A. R. Puduval.**

**226. Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether Dr. A. R. Puduval was in our State service at any time prior to 1907; if so, when was he first entertained, and what were his qualifications on the date of his appointment;

(b) when did he leave for England for prosecuting higher studies and how many years' study leave was he granted; what was his grade in the service, when he left for England;

(c) did he apply for an extension of his leave before the expiry of his study leave to enable him to go in for military service; if so, when;

(d) was any reply given to this request; if no reply was given, why was it not given; if it was replied to, when was it replied, and what was the delay due to;

(e) does not the Government consider that military service is one of the best methods of acquiring experience in medical practice;

(f) is not the Government aware of the ruling of the Imperial Council of the Government of India to the effect that officers and men who go up for military service should be accorded special privileges; has the Government received any notification to this effect from the Government of India, and has the Government been giving effect to this notification in the case of other officers;

(g) does not the Government consider that refusal of grant of leave and cancellation of previous services without adequate notice for explanation is likely to affect the efficiency of the service by creating a spirit of discontent in the mind of the individual concerned;

(h) was there notice for explanation, and, if so, when was any explanation submitted; and, if so, when; will the Government be pleased to lay a copy of it on the table;

(i) has Dr. Puduval objected to the Government at any time about this treatment accorded to him; what is the decision of the Government thereon;

(j) in the circumstances stated above, will the Government be pleased to take the earliest opportunity of righting the wrongs of this able and up-to-date officer of the Government?

**Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.**—(a) Yes. 27—8—1089. B. A., M. B. C. M.

(b) He was granted three years' special study leave, and he availed of the leave with effect from 20th Thulam 1092. He was a first grade Sub-Assistant Surgeon, when he left for England.

(c) No extension of leave was applied for.

(d) No answer is required in view of the answer above.

(e) It is one of many.

(f) Yes.

(g) Not likely to affect the efficiency of service, when the individual concerned had transgressed the rules of service.

(h) No.

(i) Yes, the Government did not consider it necessary to go beyond what they have already done in the matter.

(j) The Government do not think that there are any wrongs to be righted.

### **The Match Factory at Ollur.**

**227. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) (1) whether it is a fact that the conductors of a match factory in Ollur sought financial aid of the Government for improving their industrial concern;

(2) and whether that application was forwarded to the Economic Development Committee;